

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Barry Gaiman on 11/23/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please **replace** the Abstract with the following paragraph:

The invention provides systems, mechanisms and techniques for controlling transmission of outbound messages, such as e-mail or other types of messages, onto a computer network from an originator computer system. Connection equipment can authenticate and authorize the connection for the computer user and can capture and map originator network address information assigned to the originator computer system. A quota server can then determine if the message count exceeds the message limit for the originator identity associated with the outbound message. Embodiments of the invention control message transmission from a sending or origination point prior to the messages being transmitted on the computer network, resources of a computer network

Art Unit: 2443

are conserved and these embodiments prevent computer users from transmitting large amounts of outbound messages in excess of the message limits.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend BOTH of claims 27 and 28 by replacing “A computer program product, embodied in a computer readable medium”

with:

“a computer program product, embodied in a **non-transitory** computer readable medium”

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-16, 18-31 are allowed in view of the Applicant's arguments (see Applicant's Response, filed 2/24/2009) and the cited prior art of record.

The amendment made above to the term “computer readable medium” is to remove the possibility of the term reading on any non-statutory subject matter such as firmware or a communication line with a signal.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J. Bret Dennison whose telephone number is 571-272-3910. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9am-5:30pm Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia Dollinger can be reached on (571) 272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/J Bret Dennison/

Application/Control Number: 09/715,641

Page 5

Art Unit: 2443

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443